

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-16, and 18-22 are pending in this application.

Claim 1, 7, 19 and 21 have been amended.

Claim 22 has been added.

Regarding the § 102 Rejections

Claims 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Becker et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,295,687).

Applicant respectfully submits that Becker et al does not teach, allude to, or anticipate, either expressly or by inference, a “brake controller comprising a CPU.” It is apparent from the specification in Becker et al that the “brake controller” 14 is an analog device with resistors, capacitors, transistors, and diodes. *See* Becker et al’s list of analog parts at col. 7. Applicant respectfully points out that Becker teaches away from the use of a CPU by requiring substantially all analog parts without a centralized control technique of handling signals and processes.

As the Examiner has correctly stated, words of a claim must be given their plain meaning unless the applicant has provided a clear definition in the specification. Applicant submits that it is well known in the art that the plain meaning of CPU (Central Processing Unit) is the part of a device that centrally controls all the other parts. Designs vary widely but, in general, the CPU consists of the control unit, the arithmetic and logic unit (ALU), and memory as well as various temporary buffers and other logic. The control unit of a CPU generally retrieves instructions

from memory and decodes them to produce signals that control the other parts of the device. This may cause it to transfer data between memory and ALU or to activate peripherals to perform input or output tasks. It is also understood that the term “processor” has generally replaced “CPU”, though RAM and ROM are not normally considered as part of a processor. This is particularly true of common modern microprocessors though there have been microprocessors that include RAM and/or ROM on the same integrated circuit. As such, the CPU in claim 19 may also be a processor. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 19 is not anticipated by Becker et al because Becker et al lacks a CPU element and requests that § 102 rejection be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 20, this claim is dependent on claim 19 and is therefore not anticipated for, at least, the same reasons as stated above with respect to claim 19. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the § 102 rejection be withdrawn.

Regarding the § 103 Rejection

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Becker et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,295,687) in view of Rossigno (U.S. Patent No. 3,790,807).

As discussed above, Becker et al does not teach using a CPU. Applicant further points out that there is no discussion of any kind in Becker et al that obviates the use of a CPU. There is no motivation or other evidence of record that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to produce the named invention. Furthermore, Rossigno does not remedy the deficiency of Becker et al and merely teaches the use of an indicator light 170. Rossigno does not teach, allude to, or obviate an alpha numeric display as required by present claim 21, as amended. Applicant

respectfully requests that the § 103 rejection be withdrawn due to the cited art lacking the requisite teaching to obviate claim 21.

Regarding the New Claim

Claim 22 has been added to claim novel aspects of the present invention worthy of patentability. Applicant respectfully requests a thorough examination of this new claim in view of the cited art and submits that these claims are ready for allowance.

Regarding the Amended Claims

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough reading of the present application. Claims 7 and 19 have been amended to correct typographical errors identified by the Examiner.

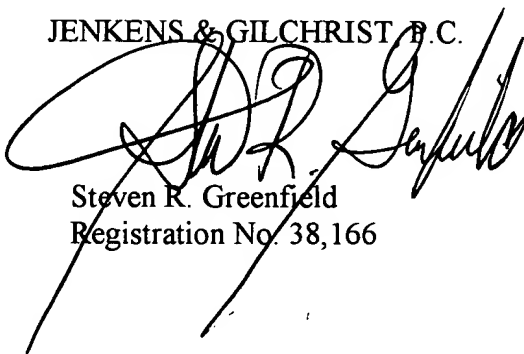
Claim 1 has been amended to remove the limitation of "voltage regulation circuitry." Applicant points out that the removed element is not required for allowance of the claim and hereby broadens the claim scope with this amendment.

Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments facilitating allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative indicated below to further prosecution of this application to allowance and issuance.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such a Notice is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKENS & GILCHRIST P.C.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Steven R. Greenfield, is written over the printed name and registration number.

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